January 16, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my opinion that the antitrust settlement is flawed, but ultimately in the best interest of the American public. The problem is that the lawsuits from the start have not addressed the real problem, which is Microsoft's heavy-handed marketing tactics. Instead it focused on giving competitors an edge that they did not have before.

For instance, under the terms of the settlement, Microsoft will be disclosing internal interfaces and protocols that are part of their Windows' operating system products. They will also be granting computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows so as to promote non-Microsoft software. These concessions as you can see do nothing to protect consumer.

Even with the flawed settlement in place, I think it is in the best interest of the IT sector, our economy, and the public for the settlement to come to fruition. Microsoft needs to be able to focus on business and the government should be putting its muscle into more pertinent issues instead of interfering with software design. I urge your office to take a firm stance on this and help discontinue any opposition to settlement. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Scott Garvey